

As a proud alumnus of FIU, it is a great honor for me to recognize the accomplishments for which FIU has been so renowned. In a world where education is the key to success, I know from personal experience of the ideals and traditions for which FIU stands and for what it instills in its students and surrounding community.

Dr. Modesto (Mitch) Maidique has been the president of FIU for the last 11 years and has been instrumental in guiding this excellent center of learning to the illustrious pedestal it is now on. Along with previous presidents, Charles Perry, Harold Crosby, and Gregory Wolfe, Mitch Maidique must be very proud of heading such a prestigious university.

For its contributions and merits, it is my honor to designate September 16, 1997, as "Florida International University Day."

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT WEAVER

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to a great American who blazed trails for African-Americans in the areas of academics and Government service. Mr. Robert Weaver was the first Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD] and the first African-American appointed to a Cabinet position in the United States of America.

In 1960, Mr. Weaver became the president of the NAACP and President John F. Kennedy sought his advice on civil rights. The following year President Kennedy appointed him Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, which later became HUD.

President Kennedy attempted to elevate the Agency to Cabinet status. However, Congress refused as a result of some Members attacking the appointment of an African-American. President Kennedy abandoned the idea; and 5 years later, President Lyndon Johnson revived the idea and pushed the measure through Congress. This time Mr. Weaver was confirmed.

Mr. Weaver had been a part of the Black Cabinet during the administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a scholarly person who wrote four books on urban affairs and made a name for himself during the 1930's and 1940's as a behind the scenes strategist in the civil rights movement.

Mr. Weaver was born on December 7, 1907, and was educated at Harvard University where he earned three degrees; a bachelors, masters, and doctorate in economics. Interestingly enough, Weaver's maternal grandfather was the first African-American graduate of Harvard University with a degree in dentistry. At the age of 90, Mr. Weaver died on July 17, 1997. A great American.

TRIBUTE TO DORIS AND KEN RUFENER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 1997

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Doris and Ken Rufener on being

named Civitas Award Winners for 29 years of outstanding service to their community.

The coveted Civitas Award is presented by the Conejo/Las Virgenes future foundation to those unselfish citizens working together to achieve community goals. This prestigious award has been given only 10 times in 20 years and it is only fitting that it should go to Doris and Ken Rufener.

The work they have done extends far beyond the boundaries of employment, albeit both Doris and Ken have served our Nation in the U.S. Air Force. For some, that would be enough public service, but not for Ken and Doris. Each of them has dedicated their life to a variety of service organizations. Doris serves as a deaconess at her church, volunteers at a local psychiatric hospital, has received the Patriotic Citizen of the Year Award from the Conejo Valley Chapter of Military Order of World Wars and has served as president and board member for a host of other organizations.

Ken has served as mayor and council member of the city of Westlake Village. He is actively involved in his church, has served as a board member of the American Heart Association and founding member of the Westlake Athletic Association. And, the list goes on.

Mr. Speaker, Doris and Ken Rufener stand as shining examples of the difference two people can make in the lives of many. I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Doris and Ken on having been named Civitas Award winners and thank them for their work in our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK W. NEUMANN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 1997

Mr. NEUMANN. Mr. Speaker, on September 4 of this year, obligations with my family prevented me from casting several votes on H.R. 2159, the Fiscal Year 1998 Foreign Operations Appropriations Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 362—the Gilman amendment. I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 363—the Smith (NJ) amendment, and I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 364—final passage of the bill.

A TRIBUTE TO MARY F. JONES ON HER SERVICE TO ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR RIGHT TO LIFE

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 1997

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a caring, dedicated woman from my State of Illinois—Mary F. Jones. Mary Jones had dedicated 25 years of service to the Illinois pro-life movement.

Over the years, Mary Jones proved to be an invaluable member of the Illinois Federation for Right to Life [IFRL] cause through her volunteerism with St. Monica's Center and Springfield Right to Life. When the Life Center opened its doors in 1986, Mary Jones was

brought out 3 years of retirement from her 35 years of service to the Illinois State Library. Since this time, Mary Jones has worked with the Life Center as State educational secretary, and remained active in the right to life cause.

With her retirement, Mary Jones has much to be proud of. She is a charter member of the Springfield Right to Life, former IFRL treasurer, and co-founder of the Right to Life Education booth at the Illinois State Fair.

As a mother of five, grandmother of nine, and great-grandmother of two, Mary Jones will remain active in her retirement traveling, spending time with family and friends, and tending to work around the house in Springfield, IL.

As a fellow advocate for the right to life cause, I wish to extend my warmest wishes, and gratitude for the insightful impact Mary F. Jones has brought to the right to life cause.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KFTV 21

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor KFTV 21 on the occasion of their 25th anniversary. KFTV 21 has been instrumental in serving the Hispanic community in the Central Valley.

For the past 25 years, KFTV 21 has been the Central Valley's premier Spanish-language television station. It prides itself on serving Fresno's Hispanic community with broad-based and family-oriented programs that educate, inform, and entertain. This ideology has rewarded KFTV 21 with viewers from all segments of Fresno, CA, Latino community.

Founded in September 1972, KFTV became the first station in the Central Valley to offer Spanish broadcasting 24 hours a day. This establishment brought the worldwide resources of Univision Communications to the Fresno area. Specifically, the Univision Network provides its KFTV 21 affiliate with access to all of the top 20 Hispanic programs, national news, and World Cup Soccer events. Along with Univision programming, KFTV 21 has the highest rated local news program in Fresno and an award winning community affairs program called "Arriba Valle Central."

KFTV 21's excellence is not limited to television as it has a strong public service record as well. Since 1977, KFTV 21 has raised thousands of dollars for needy children at Christmas time, with its "Navidad En El Valle" Program. It has also secured millions of dollars in assistance for natural disaster victims both in the United States and in Latin America. KFTV 21 also operates a mentor ship program with Cooper Middle School aimed at reducing the high school drop out rate. Finally, KFTV's "Nuestros Ninos" Program has collected almost half a million dollars for Valley Children's Hospital, the premier children's hospital in California.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to KFTV 21. This television station exemplifies leadership in representing the Hispanic community through the medium of television. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing KFTV 21 congratulations on 25 outstanding years and best wishes for continued success in the future.